

1 [St. Paul's Centennial Celebration Day - May 29, 2011]

2

3 **Resolution honoring the centennial of St. Paul's Catholic Church and proclaiming May**
4 **29, 2011, to be "St. Paul's Centennial Celebration Day in the City and County of San**
5 **Francisco."**

6

7 WHEREAS, St. Paul's Church has been a beacon of hope, comfort, and light for
8 parishioners, neighbors, and the entire Noe Valley community for a century now; and

9 WHEREAS, the genesis of St. Paul's is tied to its first parishioners experiencing
10 perilous moments trying to navigate Noe Valley's overflowing creeks to get to the then-closest
11 church, St. Peter's Church in the Mission; and

12 WHEREAS, Archbishop Alemany approved the request for a new church to be built in
13 Noe Valley in 1876 and construction of a church and residence commenced in 1880; and

14 WHEREAS, Pastor Michael D. Connolly, recognizing the growing demands of the
15 parish and the vast increase in the neighborhood population, decided to build a large church,
16 acted as his own general contractor, and began construction in 1897 of the beautiful neo-
17 Gothic cathedral that stands today; and

18 WHEREAS, the spirit of Monsignor Connolly and the numerous religious men and
19 women who have served in the parish has enabled the church to flourish throughout the
20 century, serving the spiritual and physically needy, the ailing and the elderly, individuals and
21 families of all sizes and ages, and all those who walked through its doors; and

22 WHEREAS, St. Paul's has baptized, schooled, married, and buried some of the City's
23 distinguished leaders from police chiefs to City Supervisors, esteemed lawyers and
24 entrepreneurs, and today serves those who have lived their entire lives in the parish,
25 immigrants and newcomers who found their way to San Francisco like so many others over

1 the past several generations, and a diverse community from Noe Valley, the Mission, and
2 beyond; and

3 WHEREAS, the present day St. Paul's Church, also known as the "Sister Act" Church,
4 was saved from closure in the mid-1990s when parishioners, neighbors, alumni, and friends of
5 St. Paul came together from all over the neighborhood, the city, the country, and even the
6 world, to proclaim their deep affinity and devotion to the church; and

7 WHEREAS, On Sunday, May 29, 2011 Noe Valley's St. Paul's Church will celebrate its
8 100th year standing on the corner of Valley and Church Streets; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco,
10 hereby proclaims May 29, 2011, to be "St. Paul's Centennial Celebration Day" in the City and
11 County of San Francisco.

12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25